

BEFORE THE DEPARTMENT OF FISH, WILDLIFE AND PARKS
OF THE STATE OF MONTANA

In the matter of the amendment of) NOTICE OF AMENDMENT
ARM 12.3.109, 12.3.110, and)
12.3.111 pertaining to disease)
management)

TO: All Concerned Persons

1. On August 18, 2017, the Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks published MAR Notice No. 12-474 pertaining to the public hearing on the proposed amendment of the above-stated rules at page 1328 of the 2017 Montana Administrative Register, Issue Number 16.

2. The department has amended the above-stated rules as proposed.

3. The department has thoroughly considered the comments and testimony received. A summary of the comments received and the department's responses are as follows:

COMMENT #1: The department received a comment in support of the proposed amendments, stating that the proposed amendments clarify existing authority for wildlife management and will help address elk disease transmission.

RESPONSE #1: The department agrees that the proposed amendments address FWP authority for wildlife management. However, FWP's management objectives do not directly address reducing brucellosis transmission between elk. This direction by FWP reflects one of the primary objectives identified by FWP's citizen work group which was to reduce transmission between elk and livestock (not between elk and other elk).

/s/ Zach Zipfel
Zach Zipfel
Rule Reviewer

/s/ Martha Williams
Martha Williams
Director
Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks

Certified to the Secretary of State October 16, 2017.